# Broadband Infrastructure Policy Barriers and Solutions For Accelerating Arizona's Economic Recovery and Growth An Overview

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#### **Premise**

Because Broadband Internet Services are fundamental to Arizona's economic growth, competitiveness and well-being, the underlying infrastructure for delivery of Broadband Internet Services is *essential*—as are our highways, electricity, and clean water.



- Broadband <u>policy clusters</u> for accelerating Arizona's economic recovery and growth
  - Establishing broadband Internet capacity as an essential Infrastructure
  - Reducing economic barriers to widespread implementation of broadband Internet infrastructure
  - Promoting restructuring of public processes enabling widespread utilization of broadband Internet services



- Policy Cluster 1: Establishing broadband
   Internet capacity as an essential infrastructure
  - Legislative actions
    - Establish Broadband Infrastructure Authority
    - Establish non-tax-based sustainable funding
    - Establish 2-Highways-for-1 initiative
  - Related policy actions
    - Forge coalitions with state and local entities and planning groups
    - Implement the legislative actions—throughout Arizona
    - Monitor and advocate at federal and local levels



- Policy Cluster 2: Reducing barriers to widespread implementation of Broadband Internet Infrastructure
  - Expand access to longitudinal rights-of-way
  - Expand access to vertical rights-of-way
  - Exercise Arizona's right to transfer FCC-based rightsof-way decisions to the Infrastructure Authority
  - Expedite processes for establishing rights-of-way and easements
  - Unify and simplify related permitting processes



- Policy Cluster 3: Promoting the restructuring of public processes enabling widespread utilization of broadband Internet services for all Arizonans
  - Expanding availability/accessibility for:
    - K-12 learning platforms/processes
    - Higher education certificate and degree programs
    - Broader markets for unique AZ goods and services
    - Enabling telework
    - Medical services
    - Library services
    - Government services



## **Thank You**

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#### **Contact Information**

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